YOSUKE
NAKAMARU

GANKAN

SHURA

vol.

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GAMAKAN
SHURA

Vol. 1

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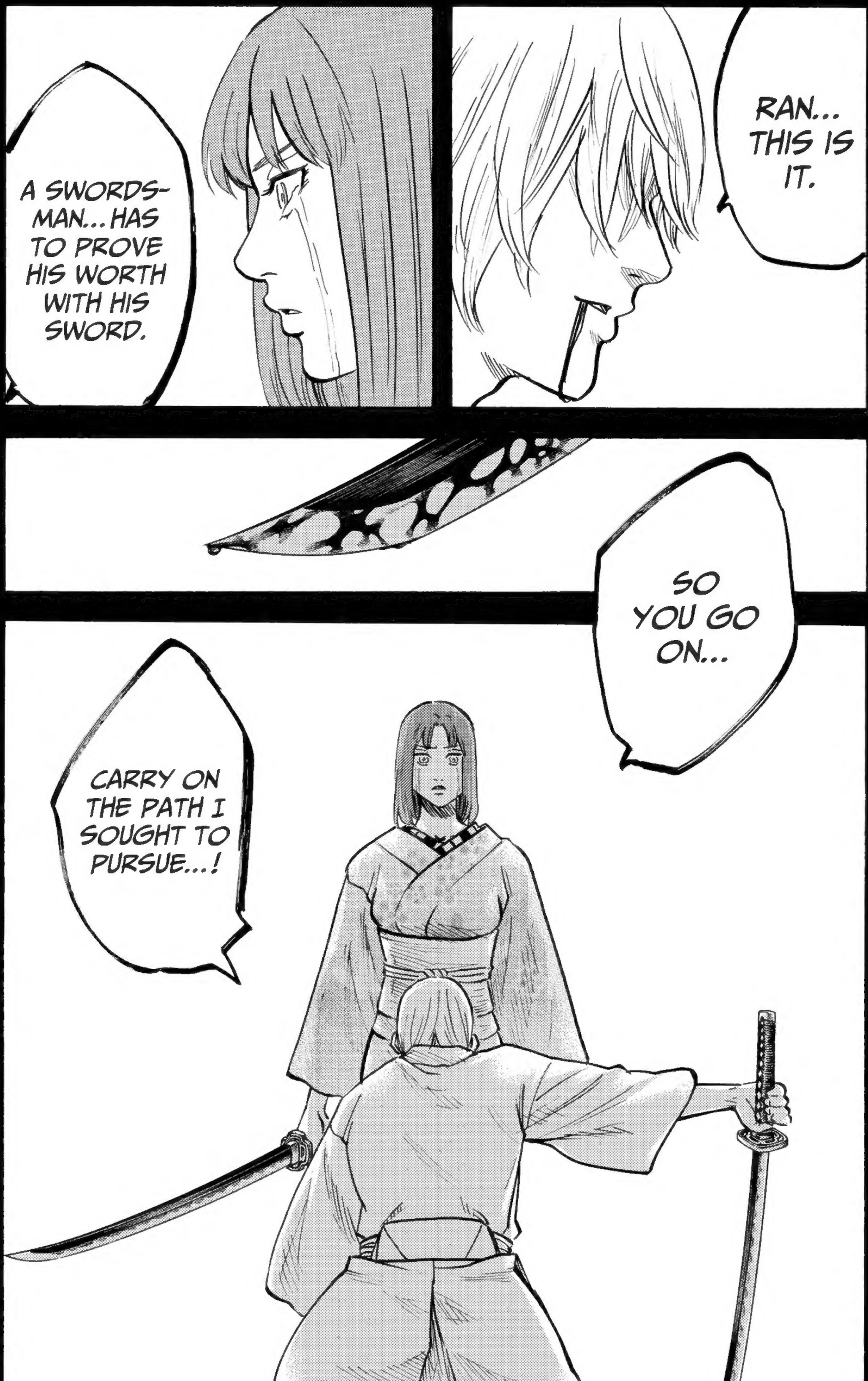
GAMARAN SHURA Vol. 5

Chapter 33: The Ogame Style Swordsmanship



...HMPH.

I HAVE NO CHOICE.

...THE OGAME STYLE.

ALL RIGHT... I'LL TEACH YOU...

I'LL KEEP MOVING FORWARD.

THANK YOU.

...

...WHO RECOG-NIZED ME AS A SWORDS-MAN.

I SWEAR IT ON MY PAST SELF, THE DAY I CUT DOWN THE ONLY FRIEND...

FWOOOOOOSH

DIDN'T YOU GO CHECK ON THEM?

OH?

PHEW ...

RATTLE ガラ

THE AIR BETWEEN THEM WAS DIFFERENT FROM WHAT I EXPECTED.

WELL ...

I DON'T EXACTLY KNOW WHY...

...BUT THEY STARTED TRAINING TOGETHER.

WHAT'S WRONG? YOU'RE ALREADY OUT OF BREATH.

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

AS I MEN-TIONED BEFORE...

...THERE ARE FIVE DIFFERENT PRINCIPLES IN THE ART OF THE OGAME STYLE, EACH WITH ITS OWN CHARACTE-RISTICS: THUNDER, FIRE, EARTH, WATER, AND AIR.

TWO-ORD LARS FIRE"!!

OGAME STYLE FIVE SWORDS: SECOND SWORD "BLAZING FLAME," FIRST FORM: "RENEWAL"

WHILE THE "BLAZING FLAME" FOR FIRE IS A TECHNIQUE OF POWER, AND SO ON.

"PURPLE FLAS

FOR EXAMPLE, THE "LIGHTNING STRIKE" FOR THUNDER IS A SPEED TECH-NIQUE...

BUT I WON'T GO OVER THE BASICS WITH YOU IN DETAIL...

I'LL JUST SHOW YOU THE TECHNIQUES FOR THE TIME BEING.

EACH TECHNIQUE HAS THREE FORMS, AND THE DIFFICULTY LEVEL INCREASES...

AS YOU MOVE FROM THE FIRST, TO THE SECOND, AND THEN TO THE THIRD FORM.

...AND STEAL IT.

SO YOU HAVE TO FEEL THE ART PRINCIPLE...

I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE ABLE TO SEE IORI-SAN'S TECHNIQUES SO CLOSE UP.

...

I UNDERSTAND.

I'LL MASTER IT FOR SURE, JUST YOU WATCH ME.

NO OTHER TEACHING METHOD WOULD BE THIS KIND TO ME.

CLENCH

ぐ..

I'M READY ANYTIME.

IORI-SAN...

SWISH

LET'S SEE HOW YOU CAN HANDLE IT.

...HMPH.

THEN, HERE I COME.

SST

?!

...FROM THAT TIME!!

ROAR

OGAME STYLE FIVE SWORDS: FIRST SWORD...

"LIGHTNING STRIKE"...

THIS TECHNIQUE IS THE ONE...!

I KNOW THIS MOVE!!

THE "PURPLE FLASH"!!

PERHAPS HE UNDERESTIMATES ME TOO MUCH!!

IF I KNOW WHAT'S COMING...

LET'S SEE HOW YOU CAN HANDLE IT.

...HMPH

THEN, HERE I COME.

SST

THERE'S NO REASON WHY I CAN'T PREVENT IT...!

...AND EXECUTE A SLASH!

IT'S A TECHNIQUE TO CLOSE THE GAP WITH LIGHTNING SPEED...

FWOOSH

WHOOSH

!!

THIS CAN'T BE RIGHT...!!

SPLASH

WHAT...?!

THUD

IT'S FAR BEYOND WHAT I EXPECTED...!!

HUFF

HUFF

?!

...THE PRES-SURE WAS SO INTENSE THAT I WAS UNDER THE ILLUSION THAT I HAD BEEN.

BUT FOR A MOMENT...

I HAVEN'T BEEN CUT...?

HUFF

HUFF

...HMPH.

EVEN THOUGH I KNEW IT WAS COMING, I STILL COULDN'T PREVENT IT... IF THAT WAS A REAL BATTLE, I WOULD'VE—

ANYWAY, YOU SHOULD THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU'VE SEEN AND FELT, AND UNDERSTAND OUR PRINCIPLES IN YOUR OWN WAY.

IT WASN'T A BAD RESPONSE...

...BUT YOU CAN'T HANDLE MY TECHNIQUE JUST AS YOU ARE NOW.

THIS IS...

...IORI SENGOKU'S TECHNIQUE...

...IT REALLY IS INCREDIBLE.

...THE OGAME STYLE!!

AND...

...THAT DAMN RAN.

STEP

SHUT

...SHE TRIED TO STRIKE IT DOWN.

PERHAPS HE UNDERESTIMATES ME TOO MUCH!!

IF I KNOW WHAT'S COMING

THERE'S NO REASON WHY I CAN'T PREVENT IT—

...AND EXECUTE A SLA

WITHOUT EVEN BOTHERING TO DODGE MY "PURPLE FLASH"...

IT'S A TECHNIQUE SE WITH TWING

...WITH JUST THIS GUIDANCE.

BUT SHE PROBABLY WON'T BE ABLE TO MASTER THE TECHNIQUE...

SHE MAY BE INEXPERIENCED, BUT SHE HAS A NATURAL TALENT.

HEHEH... WHY DON'T YOU TRAIN HER MORE?

YOU'RE BACK AGAIN...?

...

OR PERHAPS YOU DON'T HAVE THE LUXURY OF TIME RIGHT NOW...?

GHOST...!

WHAT?

AS FOR YOUR STRUGGLE AGAINST RAIO MAGAMI...

NO... IN FACT...

YOU STILL CAN'T SURPASS ME, HUH...?

...YOU'VE BECOME WEAKER THAN BEFORE, HAVEN'T YOU?

PHEW!

YOU KNOW, KASHI-TARO...

YOU EAT A LOT FOR SUCH A FRAIL BODY, DON'T YOU...?

BURP

NOW MY STOMACH IS FULL.

...

RMBL RMBL RMBL

...I HAVE TO MAKE SURE I DUMP OUT WHAT I'VE EATEN.

HM!

?!

WHAT'S WRONG?

HMPH! DON'T WORRY. UNLIKE SHINNOJO, I'D NEVER GET LOST INSIDE A MANSION.

WELL, THIS MANSION IS HUGE, SO DON'T GET LOST.

厠

*TOILET

...YOU KNOW WHAT?

I'LL GO GET SOME FOOD BEFORE I HEAD BACK. THERE MIGHT BE SOME TAN-GERINES.

I ALMOST SPEWED ALL OVER, BUT I MANAGED TO GET THERE IN TIME.

HEHEH.

FWOOSH

!

HM?

RATTLE

IS THERE SOMEONE ELSE HERE BESIDES US...?

!

I DID HEAR A SHARP RUSTLING SOUND JUST NOW.

WAS IT COMING FROM THIS ROOM..?

...NO.

THAT WASN'T IT.

B-DMP

...

A WO-MAN...?

...I'LL MASTER IT NO MATTER WHAT.

BUT...

Chapter 34: The Clue

HFF

HFF

...

WHY ON EARTH IS THERE A WOMAN WITH A SWORD IN A PLACE LIKE THIS...?

THE OGAME STYLE FIVE SWORDS...

BUT EVEN IF I COULD IMITATE THE MOVE, IT'S NOT EASY TO REPRODUCE THE TECHNIQUE'S ESSENCE.

...THE OGAME STYLE!!

...I'VE SEEN THE FIRST FORM OF EACH COMPLETE SET OF EACH TECHNIQUE AND THE "PURPLE FLASH."

FOCUSED ON DESTRUCTION AND COL-LAPSE...

"EARTH LORD."

THE EVER-CHANGING SWORD STROKES...

"WATER DRAGON."

THE BODY CONTROL TO TAKE ONE'S ENEMY UNAWARE...

"THE VOID."

THE SUPERB SLASHING STRENGTH OF...

"BLAZING FLAME."

THE GOD-LIKE SPEED OF...

"LIGHTNING STRIKE."

SO I'LL REPEAT ONE AT A TIME UNTIL I'VE THOROUGHLY MASTERED IT.

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO GRASP THE PRINCIPLES OF EACH TECHNIQUE AT ONCE.

THE EVER-CHANGING WATER...!

WHICH ONE SUITS ME...?

LIGHTENING SPEED...

EMPTY AIR...

OR PERHAPS...

YOU'VE GOT A NICE BOOTY THERE, BABE.

THAT'S IT. PROBABLY THE WATER—

THIS IS... ONE OF THE FINEST I'VE EVER SEEN. THE SIZE, THE FIRMNESS, THE BONE STRUCTURE, IT'S MY KIND OF BOOTY!!

...

NUZZLE

NUZZLE

GRAB

?!

NUZZLE

BY THE WAY, HOT STUFF...

ME? I'M KASHITARO. I'M THE GENIUS AMONG GENIUSES.

NUZZLE

WH- WHO ARE YOU?

AND WHAT EXACTLY ARE YOU DOING...?

I'D LOVE TO SLAP IT, LICK IT, AND DO ALL KINDS OF THINGS TO IT.

WOULD YOU MIND GETTING DOWN ON ALL FOURS AND SHOWING ME YOUR BOOTY?

Naked, of course.

YOU'RE INTERRUPTING MY TRAINING, SO I'LL HAVE TO KILL YOU.

...GENIUS?

YOU MEAN PERVERT, RIGHT?

HUH?

Kill me?

WHOA !!

DIE!!

FWOOSH

TCH!

I MISSED!!

HM.

YOUR SWORD MOVES ARE QUITE GOOD FOR A WOMAN.

WHOOSH

TO HELL WITH YOU, PERVERT!!

WHAT?!

SWISH

!!

HEY, BOOTY BABE...

YOU SAID YOU'RE IN TRAINING, BUT YOU WANT TO BE STRONG, RIGHT?

WELL, YOU MAKE A LOT OF UNNECESSARY MOVEMENTS.

Even for a girl with a nice butt.

YOU GIVE AWAY HINTS, SO YOUR OPPONENT CAN EASILY READ YOUR ATTACKS.

HE'S GONE?!

HUH...?!

HAH!!

!!

GRAB

カ!!

NICE TRY.

FWOOSH

SKID

URGH!! YOU'RE DISGUST-ING ME!!

PHEW!

HMPH.

I TOLD YOU ALREADY.

TCH... YOU PERVERT...!

WHO IN THE WORLD ARE YOU?!

JEEZ! YOU MUST HAVE A REAL TGHT ASS...

TO LOSE YOUR TEMPER OVER SOMETHING LIKE THIS.

PHYSICAL... RESEARCH...?

I GUESS YOUR MOVEMENTS ARE NOT BAD, THOUGH.

...IN OTHER WORDS, I'M THE GENIUS KASHITARO!!

I'M A TOP-NOTCH MARTIAL ARTIST AND AN AUTHORITY ON PHYSICAL RESEARCH...

ズッ

BOOOOOM

SINCE YOU'VE GOT A NICE BOOTY, I'M GONNA GIVE YOU SOME ADVICE.

HAHA, RIGHT?

SST

LISTEN, WOMAN...

YEAH... BUT THAT'S NOT SURPRISING.

CAPABILITY?

YOU HAVEN'T EVEN DRAWN OUT HALF OF YOUR BODY'S CAPABILITY YET.

...IT'S SO COMPLEX THAT IT'S NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR HUMANS TO ACCESS ALL OF THE BODY'S CAPABILITIES.

WHILE WE HAVE THE HIGHEST FUNCTIONALITY OF ALL LIVING CREATURES...

THERE ARE ABOUT 200 BONES AND 600 MUSCLES THAT MAKE UP THE HUMAN BODY.

SST

LISTEN...

WHATEVER YOU DO, YOU CAN'T DO IT BY BRUTE FORCE OR BY VAGUE TRAINING.

WHAT'RE YOU TRYING TO SAY?

RATHER THAN THIS CAPABILITY STUFF...

...IT'S MY TECHNIQUE THAT NEEDS WORK RIGHT NOW.

...YOU CAN BRING OUT THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE PERFORMANCE OF THE HUMAN BODY AND INCREASE ITS PRECISION, SPEED, AND TECHNIQUE.

...AND CAN MOVE EACH OF THEM CONSCIOUSLY AND EFFI-CIENTLY...

IF YOU HAVE A BETTER SENSE OF THE SKELETAL AND MUSCULAR STRUCTURES WITHIN YOU...

FOR EXAM-PLE...

FWIP

!

LIKE THIS.

KA-BOOM

KO

CRACK

HM...

WHAT...?

HE SLASHED TWICE IN AN INSTANT...

...SUCH TREMENDOUS PRECISION!!

WITH...

!

HMPH... WHAT DO YOU SAY?

THIS IS... AMAZING!..!

...

IF YOU'RE WILLING TO BE MY EXCLUSIVE SLAVE WHORE...

I'D BE HAPPY TO GIVE YOU ALL THE HELP YOU NEED.

YUP!

...KASHITARO-SAN, WAS IT?

...

I FIRMLY REJECT YOUR OFFER!!

SHE'S TALENTED WITH A SWORD, SO I THOUGHT I'D COURTEOUSLY GIVE HER LESSONS, BUT SHE TRAMPLED ON MY PURE INTENTIONS!!

フーッ FUME

フーッ FUME

DAMMIT!! THAT WHORE!!

SHE'S GOT A NICE BOOTY SO NOW SHE'S ALL COCKY!!

I'VE SEEN THAT WOMAN'S...

...SWORD MOVES SOMEWHERE BEFORE.

TCH...!

...BUT SOMETHING'S BOTHERING ME.

SST

IF YOU HAVE A BETTER SENSE OF THE SKEL-ETAL AND MUSCULAR STRUCTURES WITHIN YOU...

...AND CAN MOVE EACH OF THEM CON-SCIOUSLY AND EFFICIENTLY...

ALTHOUGH HE'S A PERVERT, HIS SWORDS-MANSHIP WAS TREMENDOUS.

...

FLIP

CLENCH

...ALL RIGHT.

MORE...!

TO GO FURTHER...

I HAVE TO BECOME STRONGER.

TO THE SWORD.

I MUST DEVOTE MY ENTIRE BODY...

THE OGAME STYLE, "WATER DRAGON," FIRST FORM...

ROARRRR

EVERY INCH OF MY BEING...

...TO THE SWORD!!

"REVERSE SCALE."

CRACK

THAT'S IT...!

THE FEELING I HAD JUST NOW WAS CLEARLY DIFFERENT FROM THE WAY MY BODY FELT BEFORE.

WHOA...

...

IF I CAN FULLY GRASP THE FEELING I JUST EXPERIENCED, I MIGHT BE ABLE TO MASTER THE OGAME STYLE TECHNIQUES...!

...I MIGHT BE ABLE TO DO IT.

WHOOOOSH

"YOU'VE BECOME WEAKER THAN BEFORE, HAVEN'T YOU?"

TCH...!

...

HFF

HFF

CHAPTER 35: SUSPICION

AND I'M GOING TO...

I'LL FULLY DEVELOP THIS FEELING AND FURTHER IMPROVE MY MOVEMENT QUALITY.

...THIS FEELS RIGHT.

...PARTICIPATE IN THE GRAND TOURNAMENT!!

新田本陣

* NITTA INN

SST

SHALL WE GO IN?

SO, THIS IS WHERE HE IS NOW?

HMM...

HE-HEH...

THEY'RE VERY DISCREET, AREN'T THEY...?

THERE'S ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE ONE HUNDRED SWORDSMEN WHO IS SCHEDULED TO COME.

...NOT YET.

THEN...

...LET'S START THE OPERATION.

DON'T WORRY, I'LL KILL IORI SENGOKU MYSELF RIGHT HERE.

THERE YOU ARE, IORI-SAN.

BY THE WAY, WHERE'S RAN-SAN?

Wasn't she with you?

OH? IT SEEMS THE RAIN HAS STOPPED.

...HMPH, IT'S YOU.

...I DON'T KNOW. MAYBE SHE'S TRAINING WITH HER SWORD.

HAHA...
SHE'S NOT
A MERE GIRL,
AFTER ALL.

...YOU'RE
THINKING THE
SAME THING, AND
YOU'RE PLANNING
TO TEACH HER
THE SWORD,
AREN'T YOU?

WITH THE RIGHT
OPPORTUNITY,
SHE MIGHT JUST
IMPROVE ALL
AT ONCE.

I FEEL
SHE'S QUITE
GIFTED AS A
SWORDSMAN.

HMPH!

I DON'T
KNOW
ABOUT
THAT.

It's such a
hassle.

ZENMARU ISN'T
DYING, BUT HE'S
NOT FEELING
WELL, SO HE'S
SLEEPING.

HE SNORES
SO LOUDLY I
HAD TO RUN
AWAY.

ANYWAY, HOW'S
THAT MONKEY
MAN DOING? IS
HE DYING FROM
THE POISON?

HE SHOULD JUST DROP OUT OF THE TOURNAMENT RIGHT HERE AND NOW.

HMPH...

THAT IDIOT...

HM...

HE HAS NO REASON TO FIGHT SO DESPERATELY.

...NEVER MIND.

THERE'S NO DEEP MEANING.

HUH?

I'M SURPRISED TO HEAR THAT FROM YOU.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

I JUST THOUGHT THAT THE OLD YOU...

WOULD'VE NEVER ASKED FOR A REASON TO FIGHT AGAINST A SWORDSMAN.

HAHA... I KNOW ALL SORTS OF THINGS ABOUT YOU.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ME?

THE OLD ME?

I CAN TELL BY YOUR FRUSTRATION THAT YOU'RE AWARE OF IT YOURSELF.

AS A MATTER OF FACT...

SINCE THE DEATH OF JINSUKE KUROGANE...

...YOUR SWORD HAS CLEARLY BECOME HESITANT AND DULL.

FWOOSH

WHAT?

HOW'S THAT POSSI-BLE—

KA-BOOM

!!

WHAT THE— AN ARROW ATTACK?!

WAS IT TARGETED AT ME?!

IT WAS FIRED FROM BEHIND THE WALL...!

EITHER WAY, SOMEONE'S TRYING TO KILL YOU.

WELL, MOST LIKELY.

HEY, KAN, CAN WE ASSUME THAT IT WAS FROM A PARTICIPANT IN THE TOUR-NAMENT?

HMPH! JUST AS WELL!

I'LL SHOW YOU WHETHER MY SWORD HAS GONE...

!

DASH

...DULL OR NOT!!

IT TAKES SOME SERIOUS PHYSICAL ABILITY TO CLEAR A WALL THAT'S...

ABOUT TWO AND A HALF-METERS HIGH-LIKE IT'S NOTHING.

...HUH.

...WHAT I'VE SAID ISN'T A LIE.

IORI SENGOKU...

BUT...

ROARRRRR

WHERE ARE YOU? COME OUT.

...BUT WHY AREN'T THEY SHOOTING AT ME?

THE ENEMY'S WEAPON IS A BOW AND ARROW...

!

WELL, WELL...

SO, YOU'RE IORI SEN-GOKU?

YOU'RE A LOT MORE HANDSOME THAN I IMAGINED.

THUD

...HE-HEH.

FIRST, LET ME INTRODUCE MYSELF.

...

ARE YOU THE ONE WHO SHOT AT ME?

...NUMBER FIFTY-FOUR ON THE ONE HUNDRED SWORDS-MAN LIST.

I'M IKKI OBAYASHI...

HAPPY TO MEET YOU. ♡

SST

LET ME INTRODUCE YOU...

SQUEAK

BUT I'M NOT THE ONE WHO SHOT THE ARROW.

...TO MY...

...DELIGHT-
FUL
FRIENDS.

...EACH ONE OF THESE GUYS IS QUITE SKILLED.

I CAN TELL BY THE STANCE THEY TAKE THAT...

...HUH. I SEE.

SO, THAT ARROW WAS A TRAP TO LURE ME OUT ALONE.

YOUR SWORD HAS CLEARLY BECOME HESITANT AND DULL.

THIS IS INTERESTING...

HMPH.

ARE YOU GUYS ALL READY TO BE KILLED?!

NOW...

CHAPTER 36: TRUE ABILITY

LET'S SEE WHO'S READY TO DIE FIRST!!

...HE-HEH.

EVEN WHEN YOU'RE COMPLETELY SURROUNDED BY THIS MANY ENEMIES, YOU HAVE A FIERCE EXPRESSION ON YOUR FACE.

HERE WE ARE, THIRTY EXPERTS.

I DON'T LIKE THE IDEA OF ATTACKING A GOOD LOOKING MAN LIKE YOU IN SUCH A LARGE GROUP...

BUT IT SEEMS THAT SOME PEOPLE CONSIDER YOU TO BE EXCEP-TIONAL.

SQUEAK

SO I'M SORRY, BUT...

SQUEAK

キーン

YOU'RE DEAD.

FWOOSH

ROARRR

HERE COMES AN ARROW ATTACK!

THWACK

BEHIND ME?!

SWISH

HE'S FAST!!

WHOOSH

TCH! NOW WHAT?

A SHURIK-EN?!

THUD

!!

GRIT

FWIP

GAH!!

THESE GUYS ARE ATTACKING ME ONE AFTER ANOTHER AT DIFFERENT RANGES!

SHIT

ARGH!

THUD

YOU GUYS ARE QUITE ANNOYING!

HAHAHA!

I WONDER HOW LONG HE CAN ENDURE IT...?!

BUT...

YOU HAVE AMAZING STRENGTH TO SWING A MAN AROUND AND USE HIM AS A SHIELD.

...HE-HEH.

...IT'S A DELIBERATE COORDINATED ATTACK.

THIS ISN'T JUST A MASS ATTACK...

...HIS PHYSICAL PERCEPTION WILL SURELY BECOME DISTORTED DUE TO EXHAUSTION.

IF A WAVE OF ATTACKS COMING FROM ALL DIRECTIONS, AT DIFFERENT RANGES, INVOLVING ARROWS, SPEARS, SHURIKENS, AND SWORDS, ALL WITH DIFFERENT PROPERTIES CONTINUES...

...HOW SKILLED HE IS.

STUMBLE

!

NO MATTER...

TCH!

FWOOSH

NOW!!

HE'S LOSING HIS FOOTING!

UGH!

!!

WHAM

HA...

HA-
HAH...!

MY
SPEAR...

WHAT'RE YOU AFRAID OF?

HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO POSITION YOURSELF TO ATTACK US...?

WHAT THE—

GAH

GET THE HELL OVER HERE.

I TOLD YOU I'M GONNA KILL EVERY LAST ONE OF YOU COWARDS!!

BUZZZ

LO!!

BUZZZ

LO!!

HOW DARE YOU, BRAT!

I'M SURE I HAVE THE ABILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GRAND TOURNAMENT, TOO.

CLINK

I'LL PROVE IT BY KILLING IORI SENGOKU!!

...MY SECRET TECHNIQUE!

I'LL SHOW YOU...

AH?

WHA...

CLANG

KA-BOOM

!!

?!

SPLASH

I'M NOT GONNÁ MESS ÁROUND...

...WITH ANY MORE OF THESE LOSERS...

...WHO ARE NO BETTER THAN JIN-SAN!!

HMM...

IN A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN.

HIS SKILL, POWER, SPEED, AND SPIRIT ARE...

BUT I HAD NO IDEA THAT A BUNCH OF THEM COULDN'T EVEN PUT A SCRATCH— ON HIM.

...I THOUGHT THEY WERE ALL FAIRLY GOOD FIGHTERS, IF NOT AS GOOD AS THE ONE HUNDRED SWORDSMEN.

WHO IS SAID TO BE THE PEERLESS SWORDS-MAN OF THIS WORLD!!

THIS IS THE POWER OF IORI SENGOKU...

GIT

...NOT BAD.

NO WONDER THE HIGHER-UPS ARE CAUTIOUS OF HIM.

CLINK

HEHEH... HE'S A MUCH BETTER MAN THAN I IMAGINED.

YOU MONSTER!

?!

THUD

YOU'RE NO MATCH FOR HIM!!

GAH!!

I, IKKI OBAYASHI, WILL KILL HIM!!

...IORI SEN-GOKU-SAN!

SO LET ME JOIN THIS BATTLE...

Chapter 37: The Iron Will of Shura

SO LET ME JOIN THIS BATTLE, IORI SENGOKU-SAN!

GAH!!

HMPH!

SKID

HAS A DISTINCTLY DIFFERENT VIBE FROM THE REST OF THEM.

I GUESS HE'S THE HEAD OF THIS BUNCH.

THIS GUY....

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT WEAPON?!

AND IT'S SWIFT...!

FWOOSH

!!

SCHWING

?!

A SWORD WON'T SAVE YOU FROM THIS!!

HAHA!

WHAT...?!

RIP

FWOOSH

MNF!

HOW FAST YOU RUN AWAY.

OH...

SKID

HMPH... WHO SAID I WAS RUNNING AWAY?

...BUT YOUR WEAPON IS QUITE THE BEAST.

YOUR PERSON-ALITY IS ONE THING...

THIS IS A COMBINA-TION OF A THREE-SECTION STAFF AND A BATTLE-AXE...

FIS.

CLINK

...BUT YOU'VE NEVER SEEN THIS BEFORE, HAVE YOU?

HE-HEH...

YOU'VE FOUGHT COUNTLESS BATTLES...

IT'S THE THREE-SECTION BATTLE-AXE...

...THE "BLAZING GRACE."

COME AT YOUR LEISURE.

NOW, THEN...

AND HAS A DESTRUCTIVE POWER THAT CAN EASILY SHATTER A SWORD.

HIS WEAPON FEATURES A RAPID ATTACK CYCLE...!

HMPH... I SEE.

SWISH

THEN... THE BEST MOVE WOULD BE TO ATTACK HIM FIRST...!

TO STOP WITH A SWORD.

AND THAT AXE IS TOO THICK AND HEAVY...

ROAR

!

BUT...

TCH!

...WITH SO MANY OF THEM SURROUNDING ME, FIGHTING THAT THING IS PRETTY TRICKY!

GASH

ROARRR

THIS TIME, I WON'T LET YOU GET AWAY!

WHOOSH

NOW HE'S COMPLETELY OFF HIS POSTURE.

TCH!

BUZZ

SKID

THIS BATTLE IS...

THERE IS NO WAY TO RECEIVE OR DODGE MY NEXT BLOW.

ROAR

...MINE!!

HAH!

DAM-
MIT...!

WHACK

?!

THAT'S JUST...

HE DEFLECTED A SUPER-SPEED SLASH BY STRIKING THE WEAPON ON ITS SIDE?!

WHAT...?

THAT GIANT WEAPON OF YOURS IS GETTING THE BETTER OF YOU!

SKID

...IMPOSSIBLE!!

TCH!

THERE IS NO WAY TO BEAT THAT MAN...

...IF...

!

WHOOSH

...IT WERE JUST ME.

ぐけ

THE ARROW'S AIM AND TIMING ARE PERFECT!!

HE CAN'T DODGE ANYMORE!!

HMPH!

IORI SENGOKU!!

DIE!!

I WON'T BE DEFEATED!!

THWACK

...I'LL KEEP SLAYING EVERY LAST ONE OF YOU!!

UNTIL THERE IS NO ONE LEFT TO STAND IN MY WAY...

GAGH!

WHA...

FWOOSH

SLIH

HOW DID...HE CUT ME WITH A SINGLE STROKE ALONGSIDE...

...IS THIS MONSTER?!

...A FLYING ARROW...?

WHAT IN THE NAME OF GOD...

GOOD GRIEF... HE'S EVEN STRONGER THAN THE RUMORS SAY.

...IT TOOK 30 SKILLED FIGHTERS, INCLUDING A MEMBER OF THE ONE HUNDRED SWORDSMEN, TO GIVE HIM A SINGLE WOUND.

...

DID YOU JUST GET HERE?!

THE BATTLE HAS ALREADY STARTED.

YOU'RE ...!

STEP

HAHAHA... THIS ISN'T GOING TO WORK, IS IT?

!

...THAT BASTARD IORI SENGOKU SEEMS TO BE STRUGGLING MORE THAN I EXPECTED.

BUT...

I'VE BEEN HERE FOR QUITE A WHILE.

IT'S MORE LIKE THE BATTLE'S ENDING.

HEHEH...

STRUGGLING?!

HE'S UP AGAINST 30 OPPONENTS AND—

I COULD HANDLE 50 OF THEM WITHOUT A SINGLE SCRATCH AND WIN!!

THE TOJO STYLE, MEMBER OF THE ONE HUNDRED SWORDSMEN,

SHUNGAKU TOJO

ENTERTAIN ME, IORI SENGOKU...!!

...I'M HERE BECAUSE THEY TOLD ME THEY'D TAKE ME TO HIM.

HFF

HFF

WHAT'S WITH ALL THIS PRESSURE?

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

CHAPTER 38: DESIRING THE STRONG

IT DOESN'T MATTER WHETHER IT'S BOWS OR SPEARS...

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE.

...A PERFECT FIGURE OF A WAR GOD...!

HE'S LIKE A DEMON GOD...

HOW MANY MORE?

IF YOU'RE TRYING TO KILL ME, BE READY TO DIE YOURSELF!!

NO ONE CAN DEFEAT HIM...!!

THERE WERE 30 OF US, BUT ONLY A FEW OF US ARE STILL ALIVE..!!

HUFF

HUFF

NO... WE CAN'T...

...WE CAN DEFEAT THAT MONSTER...!

THERE'S NO WAY...

HUH?

HUH?! WHO ARE YOU?!

!

STEP

IF YOU'RE AFRAID OF ONE ENEMY WHEN YOU HAVE 30 ALLIES, GET THE HELL OUT OF MY FACE.

!!

GASH

THIS IS...

...HOW I'M GONNA DIE...?

SPLASH

HOW CAN THIS BE...?!

...WHAT?

THUD

...FLIRT WITH HIM A LITTLE LONGER...!

I WANTED TO...

LISTEN, YOU LITTLE BASTARDS...

ROARRRRRR

IF YOU'VE LOST THE WILL TO FIGHT...

...STAY THE HELL OFF THE BATTLE-FIELD!

YOU DIS-GRACEFUL FOOLS DE-SERVE TO DIE TEN THOUSAND DEATHS!!

HUH...?

WHAT'S WITH THAT STUPIDLY GIGANTIC WEAPON...? AND THIS GUY...

YOU SEEM TO HAVE A LOT OF TROUBLE WITH THESE NOBODIES, DON'T YOU?

...BUT LOOK AT YOU, IORI SENGOKU.

HURRY UP AND KILL HIM!!

HUH?! WHO YOU CALLIN' NOBODIES?!

HE KILLED OBAYASHI! HE'S OUR ENEMY!!

DIE!!

A SIMULTANEOUS ATTACK WITH A SHURIKEN AND A SPEAR.

!!

ROAR

...HMPH.

AND YOU GUYS REALLY THINK YOU CAN KILL ME WITH THOSE THINGS?

HUH

OH, WELL!

SKID

ROARRR

I GUESS I'LL HAVE...

...SOME FUN WITH YOU GUYS!!

FWOOSH

THUD

...THIS IS OUTSIDE THE NAGINATA'S RANGE, ISN'T IT?!

I MEAN...

HE SLASHED ME BEFORE I COULD THROW THE SHURIKEN?

NO WAY...

WHAT THE HELL... WAS THAT SLASH?!

BUT...

OF COURSE, YOU ACHIEVE A LONGER DISTANCE WHEN YOU SWING WITH ONE ARM INSTEAD OF BOTH.

HE SLASHED WITH ONE ARM, ALLOWING HIM TO REACH HIS TARGETS!

...AND SLAY FOUR MEN AT ONCE?!

...HOW CAN HE WIELD THAT RIDICULOUSLY HUGE NAGINATA WITH A SINGLE ARM...

!

WHAT...?!

BUT I GUESS I USED TO BELONG TO THE MUHO STYLE HEAD'S PERSONAL CORPS.

I CAN TELL THAT YOU'RE NOT COM-RADES.

...WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?

I HAVE NO SUCH THING.

COM-RADES?

DON'T BE SILLY.

I'M HERE BECAUSE I'M INTRIGUED TO MEET...

...THE ONLY SWORDSMAN I'VE EVER APPROVED OF, JINSUKE KUROGANE'S BEST DISCIPLE!!

I'M SHUNGAKU TOJO.

YOU WERE ACTUALLY JIN-SAN'S COMRADE...?

THE MUHO STYLE HEAD'S PERSONAL CORPS...?

SO, SHUNGAKU TOJO...

WELL...

YOU'RE A LITTLE MORE EXCITED AFTER HEARING HIS NAME, HUH?

HAHA...

I GUESS WE'VE HAD ENOUGH TALKING.

BUT...IT'S TOO BAD HE DIED OF SOME STUPID ILLNESS.

...I HAD FUN MESSING AROUND WITH HIM, TOO.

LET'S GET STARTED, IORI SENGOKU.

I CAME HERE TO HAVE FUN WITH YOU TODAY.

YOU'RE HIS BEST DISCIPLE...

...SO DON'T LET ME DOWN!!

THERE WAS A WOMAN WHO USES SIMILAR SWORDSMANSHIP TO ZENMARU?

新田太

*NITTA INN

BUT THAT DOESN'T MATTER. MORE IMPORTANTLY, SHE HAD A SALACIOUS BOOTY.

...THINKING ABOUT IT MADE ME EXCITED AGAIN.

MAYBE SO.

DOESN'T THAT MEAN...

...IT'S THE ICHINOSE STYLE?

JUST SHUT UP, PERVERT.

HEHEH. DON'T BE SHY. YOU MUST REALLY WANNA DO SOMETHING CRAZY WITH THAT BOOTY, HUH?

RATTLE ガラ

OH, ARE YOU ALSO CURIOUS ABOUT HER BOOTY?

LET'S GO LOOK FOR HER.

HMPH... I'M INTRIGUED.

NO, NOT THAT.

DO YOU HEAR THAT?

...

HUH? HEAR WHAT?

I'M SURE OF IT.

WELL...

REALLY? I DON'T HEAR ANYTHING.

I ALSO HEARD SHOUTING.

...SOUNDED LIKE SWORDS CLASHING EACH OTHER.

IT WAS PRETTY CLOSE AND...

...

...I'M CURIOUS.

THIS EARLY IN THE MORNING...?

WHAT?

SOMEONE'S FIGHTING NEARBY.

...

LET'S GO CHECK IT OUT.

FIRST A WOMAN WHO SEEMS TO BE PART OF THE ICHINOSE STYLE...

...AND NOW AN EARLY-MORNING BATTLE.

I HAVE A FEELING SOMETHING INTERESTING IS GOING ON...!

BONUS

NEVER TOO LATE

BIOGRAPHIES OF THE DEFEATED: SHURA #7

7

THE IGAKIRIGAKURE STYLE

SANPEITA MOMOCHI

HERE IT IS, THE NINJA. I WROTE ABOUT THIS IN MY PREVIOUS SERIES GAMARAN WHEN A NINJA NAMED SAIZO FUJIBAYASHI (DID I REMEMBER HIS NAME RIGHT?) APPEARED IN THE STORY, BUT REAL NINJAS ARE BASICALLY SPIES OR SPECIAL AGENTS, SO THEY WORK TO AVOID GETTING INTO PHYSICAL FIGHTS. THEREFORE, THEY'RE TOO PLAIN FOR A BATTLE MANGA.

BUT I WANTED TO DEPICT A NEW TYPE OF BATTLE THAT A MERE STRONG MAN WOULD NEVER DO, AND SINCE I LIKE COWARDLY CHARACTERS, I THOUGHT A NINJA WOULD BE BETTER SUITED THAN A NORMAL MARTIAL ARTIST.

THE THING I WAS MOST CONCERNED ABOUT WAS MOMOCHI'S GREATEST WEAPON, THE "POISON HAND," WHICH APPEARS IN VARIOUS FICTIONAL WORKS, BUT PROBABLY DOES NOT EXIST IN REAL LIFE.

I TRIED TO USE IT IN BATTLE, BUT AFTER THE FIRST STRIKE, I REALIZED THAT THERE WAS NO PARTICULAR EXCITEMENT FOR THIS POISON HAND AND THAT IT DIDN'T GEAR PEOPLE UP FOR THE BATTLE.

IF I SIMPLY USED POISON, IT'D BE EXTREMELY SIMPLE IN THE BATTLE SCENES, SO I GUESS IT WAS FOR THE BEST. I ALSO REAFFIRMED THAT DRAWINGS ARE CRUCIAL IN MANGA BECAUSE, WELL, DUH.

SHWF

SO, IT'S GOING TO BE A ONE-ON-ONE BATTLE BETWEEN THOSE TWO AFTER ALL, HUH...?

CHAPTER 39: THE ANTAGONISTS

JUST AS YOU PREDICTED...

...INDEED.

STILL...

THIS IS PROBABLY THE FIRST TIME IN THIS GRAND TOURNAMENT THAT WE'VE SEEN SUCH A HIGH RANKING MATCH-UP.

SHIBUSAWA.

AND SHUN-GAKU TOJO, RANKED NUM-BER SIX.

IORI SENGOKU, RANKED NUMBER FOUR ON THE ONE HUNDRED SWORDSMEN LIST.

BUT IF BOTH DIE, THE WHOLE PLAN WILL BE THROWN OFF.

IT'D ALSO GO AGAINST THE HIGHER-UPS' INTENTIONS.

YEAH... I'M AWARE OF THAT.

I WONDER IF...

IORI SEN-GOKU...

...IN ORDER FOR HIM TO BECOME SOME-ONE WHO CAN LIVE UP TO MY EXPECTATIONS...

...THIS BATTLE IS CRUCIAL.

I LONG FOR MORE...

STILL...

...I'LL GET WHAT I WANT...

...WHEN THESE TWO MONSTERS COLLIDE.

DAM-
MIT...!

WHO THE HELL...

...ARE THESE MON-STERS...?!

HFF

HFF

HE-
HEH...

COME ON, ANYTIME, IORI SENGOKU.

HURRY UP AND ENTERTAIN ME.

...HMPH.

...THEN HE'S A MARTIAL ARTIST WHO'S BEEN APPROVED BY JIN-SAN.

IF HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE MUHO STYLE HEAD'S PERSONAL CORPS...

SHUNGAKU TOJO... I THINK I'VE HEARD OF HIM.

THIS IS PERFECT.

...HMPH.

...AND THE ONLY OPPONENT I'D SET MY EYES ON WHOM I COULDN'T BEAT.

THE MAN WHO WAS CALLED THE "SLAYER OF A THOUSAND"...

SWAY

HEY, JIN-SAN.

IF I BEAT THIS GUY...

...CAN I PROVE MY SWORD ISN'T RUSTY?

LET'S DO IT!!

SKID

FWOOSH

CLANG

!!

BUT, JINSUKE...

!!

A GUY LIKE THIS SURELY DOESN'T COME ALONG VERY OFTEN!

THE INITIAL MOTION OF THE SLASH IS VIRTUALLY INVISIBLE, YET IT'S HEAVY, SHARP, AND EXTREMELY POWERFUL!

INDEED!

HEHEH!

SKID

WHOOSH

I'M NOT SATISFIED YET!!

THWACK

HIS TRANSITION FROM DEFENSE TO ATTACK IS INCREDIBLY FAST.

SHFF

TCH...

BAS-TARD...!

DRIP

HFF

HFF

WHOOSH

I'M NOT ...YET SFIED

PERFECTLY...!

!!

A GUY LIKE THIS, SURELY DOESN'T COME ALONG VERY OFTEN!

...NSUKE...

HE WIELDED THAT RIDICULOUSLY HUGE WEAPON SO EFFORTLESSLY AND FIERCELY...

STEP

HEHEH... WERE YOU PLANNING TO PUSH ME SO HARD THAT I COULDN'T FIGHT BACK?

WHAT A MONSTER...!

THAT'S A LITTLE NAIVE.

WELL...

...HMPH.

A SERIOUS BLOW FROM THIS GUY WOULD PROB-ABLY BLAST A HUMAN BEING TO SMITHEREENS!!

THAT WASN'T ENOUGH, IORI SEN-GOKU.

OR PERHAPS...

LET ME HAVE MORE FUN WITH MY SWORD.

BAS-TARD ...

...HIS SON MIGHT ENTERTAIN ME MORE THAN YOU CAN?

YOU KNOW GAMA...?

!

YEAH...

I REMEMBER HIM FROM THE FIGHT TWO YEARS AGO.

I WONDER HOW FAR HE'S PRO-GRESSED NOW.

HEH...

THIS LENT YOURS.

CLANG

BACK THEN, HE WAS STILL ROUGH AROUND THE EDGES, BUT HIS GROWTH WAS TREMENDOUS.

THERE'S AMAZING TALENT RESID-ING WITHIN YOUR BODY.

SO IF YOU AP-PROVE OF HIM...

...THEN I CAN'T LOSE TO YOU.

I SEE.

HEHEH...

I'M THE ONE WHO TAUGHT HIM SWORDS-MANSHIP IN THE FIRST PLACE.

I'LL GIVE IT MY ALL FOR YOU!

HEHEH...

THAT'S THE SPIRIT.

...ALL RIGHT.

FWIP

SST

FWOOSH

!!

?!

YOU CAN'T BLIND ME WITH THIS.

CLANG

I'LL LET YOU...

...ENJOY MY SWORD AT ITS BEST!!

HOW FAST!

HE'S ALREADY IN MY RANGE?!

OLD MAN...

HAHA!! INDEED, HE'S GIVING IT ALL HE'S GOT!!

KA-BOOM

...DOUBLE STRIKE!

RAPID...

CLENCH

NOT YET.

SPLASH

TCH!

WHAT A BEAST!!

THE BARRAGE ISN'T OVER!!

SKID

SO I'LL JUST FINISH HIM OFF AT ONCE!

IF HE GETS OUT OF MY RANGE, I'LL BE IN TROUBLE!!

...I WOULD NEVER BE...

CLENCH

WHEN I LOST TO THAT MAN, AND FOUND OUT HE WAS DEAD, I SWORE TO MYSELF THAT...

A JOURNEY TO SURPASS JIN-SAN...

YEAH

...!

THUD THUD THUD

CLENCH

THWACK

...DEFEATED AGAIN!!

OGAME STYLE, "BLAZING FLAME" SECOND FORM...

YOU BAS-TARD!

GASH

"CRIMSON LOTUS SLASH"!!

Chapter 40: The Strong Man's Tactics

BASTARD...!

BA...

HOW DARE YOU STOP THE CRIMSON LOTUS SLASH?!

MY CRIMSON LOTUS SLASH COULD CUT THROUGH A THICK STEEL PLATE!!

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE...!!

I USED ALL OF MY BODY TO KILL THE FORCE IN ORDER TO RECEIVE YOUR STRIKE, BUT I DIDN'T EXPECT IT TO LEAVE A MARK.

HEHEH...

THAT WAS A VERY POWERFUL MOVE.

SST

...NOT ENOUGH.

STILL... NOT AS GOOD AS I'D HOPED.

MORE...

HUH...?!

THIS GUY IS...

LET ME HAVE MORE FUN!!

...ALONG WITH MY SWORD...!

CLENCH

...PUSHING ME BACK...

ROARRRR

!

SPLASH

WHAT A... BEAST...!!

I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE PUSHED ASIDE BY STRENGTH...!

SHFFF

DAM-MIT...!

HFF

HFF

...AS EXPECTED, THAT MAN IS STRONG.

THAT'S THE TRUE POWER OF SHUNGAKU TOJO...!

...

YEAH... SO FAR THEY'RE PRETTY MUCH EVEN... OR PERHAPS TOJO IS SUPERIOR.

AMONG THOSE MONSTERS...

IORI SEN-GOKU?

THE MUHO STYLE HEAD'S PERSONAL CORPS IS COMPOSED OF TEN MARTIAL ART-ISTS WHOSE ABILITIES WERE APPROVED BY JINSUKE KUROGANE, THE SLAYER OF A THOUSAND.

HEY NOW, WHAT'RE YOU SURPRISED ABOUT...

...HE'S SAID TO BE THE STRONGEST!!

THE SHOWDOWN IS JUST GETTING STARTED, RIGHT?

THIS GUY IS THE REAL DEAL...!

...HMPH.

HFF

HFF

...HE MIGHT BE SECOND ONLY TO JIN-SAN IN ALL OF MY BATTLES UP UNTIL NOW.

IT'S POSSIBLE THAT...

YOUR GAZE LOOKS MUCH BETTER NOW.

BUT ARE YOU SURE?

I'LL CUT HIM DOWN NO MATTER WHAT IT TAKES.

AND—

HFF

BUT THAT'S WHY I'LL HAVE TO SLAY HIM.

HE CAN REACH ME FROM THIS DISTANCE?!

ROAR

YOU'RE STILL WITHIN MY RANGE THERE.

STOMP

I.T-GRAZED HIM!!

!

ROAR

BUZZ

BUT...

...THAT'S THE END OF HIS STRIKE.

I'LL FINISH HIM RIGHT HERE!!

THUD

THIS IS IT!

"PURPLE FLASH"!!

RUMBLE

THERE'S NO NAGINATA IN FRONT OF ME!!

RUMBLE

I GOT THIS!

FWOOSH

'AND...

HE DODGED IT?!

WHAT...?!

...HE'S GETTING IN PERFECT POSITION!

...HE MUST'VE SEEN THE "PURPLE FLASH" COMING!!

BASTARD...

IS THAT ALL YOU GOT?

ROAR

YORI SENGOKU...

SKID

RUMBLE

YOU CAN'T DODGE THIS!!

...FOR JINSUKE'S BEST DISCIPLE!!

THE BATTLE'S OVER...

CLENCH

DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH!!

I'M THE MAN...

I'M IORI SEN-GOKU...

IT'S NOT OVER YET!

CRACK

I STILL—

KA-BOOM

...WHO WILL STAND AS THE PEERLESS SWORDSMAN OF THIS WORLD!!

CRAAAASH

SHAPE

!

YEAH... IT'S PRETTY CLOSE.

...

THAT'S THE SOUND OF STEEL CRACKING AGAIN.

...

GAMA...

THERE'S DEFINITELY A BATTLE GOING ON OVER THERE.

...AND I CAN SMELL THE BLOOD IN THE AIR.

HUH?

...LET'S HURRY.

...PROBABLY ENDING SOON.

THIS BATTLE IS...

BONUS

NEVER TOO LATE

BIOGRAPHIES OF THE DEFEATED: SHURA 8

THE OBAYASHI STYLE

IKKI OBAYASHI

AS YOU MIGHT'VE GUESSED FROM HIS LAST WORDS, I DEPICTED HIM IN THE IMAGE OF A CERTAIN FAMOUS JAPANESE MAKE-UP ARTIST. HIS WEAPON IS A THREE-SECTION STAFF, BUT IN GAMARAN'S WORLD, IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE IF THE APPEARANCE IS TOO SIMPLE, SO I DECIDED TO ATTACH A BLADE TO IT.

ACCORDING TO THE SHOGUNATE'S RANKING OF THE ONE HUNDRED SWORDSMEN, HE'S NUMBER FIFTY-FOUR, WHICH IS IN THE MIDPOINT OF THE RANKING, BUT ACCORDING TO ME, THE AUTHOR, HE'S MORE LIKE NUMBER SEVENTY-FIVE, WHICH MAKES HIM SOMEWHAT OF AN UNDERDOG.

BUT THAT'S THE WAY IT IS WITH GAMARAN. NO MATTER HOW STRONG OR ATTRACTIVE THE CHARACTERS LOOK OR HOW INTERESTING THEY ARE, THEY DIE SO EASILY.
ALTHOUGH HIS NAME IS IKKI, MY STAFF MEMBERS AND I WERE CALLING HIM IKKO DURING OUR MEETING, AND I COULDN'T REMEMBER HIS REAL NAME UNTIL THE VERY END.

THE BATTLE'S OVER FOR JIN-SUKE'S BEST DISCIPLE!!

CHAPTER 41: CROSSING FATES

CLENCH

CRACK

I'M THE MAN WHO WILL STAND AS THE PEERLESS SWORDS-MAN OF THIS WORLD!!

DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH!

SCHWING

...NO.

IT'S SETTLED!

NOT YET!!

SKIID

YOU'VE GOT ONE HELL OF A SKILL SET TO DEFLECT A SLASH LIKE THAT WITH YOUR SWORD.

HMPH... THAT WAS IMPRESSIVE.

HFF

HFF

BUT...

TI'D

DRIP

YOU MANAGED TO DODGE A DIRECT HIT, HUH?

HFF

HFF

IT SEEMS THAT EVEN GRAZING YOU WAS EFFECTIVE ENOUGH!!

YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO GET BACK ON YOUR FEET FOR A WHILE.

HFF

TCH!

MY LEGS FEEL WORN OUT...!

I CAN'T BELIEVE I TOOK A BLOW LIKE THAT...!

HFF

DAM-MIT...!

GRIT

HFF

YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!!

©LENCH

GET UP!

RUMBLE

ズゥゥ

HOW CAN I BE BEATEN BY ANY-ONE BESIDES JIN-SAN?!

!

THAT'S JUST IMPOSSIBLE!!

OH...

WHAT A SURPRISE.

GET ON YOUR FEET!!

SKID

YOU CAN STILL GET UP, HUH?!

...SHUNGAKU TOJO!!

I'LL DESTROY YOU...

ANYONE WHO STANDS IN MY WAY...

...I'LL CUT THEM ALL DOWN!!

WHAT THE HELL...

...ARE YOU DOING HERE?

HUH...?

...IORI.

GASP

WHAT THE HELL...ARE YOU DOING HERE...

WH...

HUFF

HUFF

GAMA...?!

HMPH...

I DIDN'T EXPECT TO SEE GAMA KUROGANE HERE.

NO WAY! GAMA KUROGANE?!

WHAT'S HE DOING HERE?!

YOU'RE ...

!

HFF

HFF

DAMN YOU, GAMA... DON'T RUN SO FAST.

HFF

HFF

WELL, I NEVER EXPECTED TO SEE IORI SEN-GOKU HERE, THOUGH.

HFF

HFF

...HEHEH.

YEAH...
YOU TOO.

!

GAMA KUROGANE, WHAT A SURPRISE TO SEE YOU HERE.

TOJO!

I'M THE TEACHER OF BAIAN MAKI, WHO YOU KILLED A YEAR AND A HALF AGO...

SHUNGAKU TOJO!

IT'S BEEN TWO YEARS SINCE I SAW YOU AT THE UNABARA CASTLE...

I KNEW YOU'D COME OUT FOR THIS GRAND TOURNAMENT!!

I'M DELIGHTED!

DON'T YOU DARE TO PUT A DAMPER ON MY FIGHT...

HMPH! HOW LONG ARE YOU GUYS GONNA KEEP CHATTING?

!

...WITH YOUR SORDID REUNION TALK!!

STEP

HMPH.

HFF

I'M NOT GONNA STOP UNTIL I CUT HIM DOWN!!

...

HFF

HFF

IT SEEMS YOU'VE BEEN...

...FIGHTING FOR QUITE A LONG TIME.

HFF

HFF

...

DON'T DO THIS, IORI.

OR YOU'LL END UP DEAD...!!

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN, BRAT?!

I'LL BE DEAD...?

HMPH!

STOMP

HUH?! WHAT THE—

OTHER-WISE!!

STEP

I BET YOU WERE ALREADY WORN OUT FROM SLAYING SO MANY ENEMIES!

THERE'S NO WAY YOU COULD LOSE A ONE-ON-ONE FIGHT...

...RE-GARDLESS OF WHO YOU'RE UP AGAINST!!

HMPH...

I CAN'T JUST IGNORE THAT.

GAMA...!

...YOU'RE MY ROLE MODEL.

IORI...

LET ME JOIN YOU AT LEAST.

...TO DIE IN VAIN.

AND I WON'T ALLOW YOU...

IF YOU INSIST ON DOING THAT...

IF I SLAY YOU BOTH...

...THEN EVERYONE WILL BE CONVINCED THAT I'M THE PEERLESS SWORDSMAN OF THE WORLD!!

INDEED, YOU'RE THE SON OF THE SLAY-ER OF A THOUSAND.

SLAYING BOTH OF US, HUH?

...HEHEH.

GAMA...

YOU'RE VERY ENTERTAINING, AFTER ALL!!

TO BE CONTINUED IN VOL. 6

BONUS

DIE HARD BIOGRAPHIES OF THE NEVER-DEFEATED: SHURA 3

THE ICHINOSE AND THE OGAME STYLES

ZENMARU ICHINOSE

ZENMARU PLAYS A MORE IMPORTANT ROLE IN THIS SERIES THAN IN THE PREVIOUS ONE, BEING THE HEROINE'S OLDER BROTHER AND LIVENING THINGS UP. *GAMARAN* IS GENERALLY A BLEAK STORY, AND I OFTEN FIND IT DEPRESSING TO DRAW, SO ZENMARU'S PRESENCE IS A BIG HELP.

I RECENTLY DISCOVERED THAT A MANGA ARTIST'S MENTALITY IS EASILY RUINED IF THERE ARE NO COMEDIC LINES, AND I DIDN'T NOTICE IT WHEN HE WAS AROUND, BUT WHENEVER I'M AWAY FROM HIM, I REMEMBER HOW MUCH I LOVE ZENMARU! IT FEELS LIKE TRUE LOVE.

BY THE WAY, EVERYONE MUST BE WONDERING ABOUT ZENMARU (I SUPPOSE) BECAUSE ALTHOUGH HE BECAME VERY STRONG AT THE END OF THE PREVIOUS SERIES, HE'S ONLY RANKED 95TH IN THE ONE HUNDRED SWORDSMEN LIST, WHICH ISN'T VERY HIGH.

THIS EVALUATION WAS DONE WITHOUT THE "BEAST SWORD," KUTARAGI SADANAGA, SO WHEN HE HAS IT, HIS RATING WOULD GO UP A LOT (IN MY PERSONAL RANKING).

FOR NOW, HE HAS ONLY FOUGHT THE COWARDLY OLD MAN, BUT I THINK HE'LL PROBABLY CONTINUE TO PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE ALONG WITH RAN AND THE ICHINOSE STYLE IN VARIOUS BATTLES, SO I HOPE YOU'LL CHEER HIM ON.

Gamaran: Shura 5

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